

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed April 28, 2004. Applicant hereby requests a three month extension of time from July 28, 2004, to October 28, 2004. The fee due under 37 CFR §1.17(a)(3) (Fee Code 2253) is enclosed herewith.

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR §1.83(a). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The first and second gaskets are shown in Fig. 1 at reference numerals 10 and 11, respectively. The first and second gaskets 10, 11 are shown in Fig. 1 to be mounted on the sleeve 9, as described in the specification at page 8, lines 8-17:

...the screw 4 pivots more and the tap is itself further tightened in such a manner as to push the sleeve 9 on the lower gasket 10 until a waterproof seal is formed between the gasket 10 and the sleeve 9.

The saddle hub 3 is always maintained on the tightened on the pipe 2c and the lower gasket 10 also maintains a waterproof seal between the pipe 2c and the sleeve 9. The tap 12 is screwed into the tube 8 with the threading 20. The tap 12 compresses the upper gasket 11 on the sleeve 9 and is locked by locking screw 21. The upper gasket 11 insures a waterproof seal between the tap 12 and the sleeve 9.

The first and second gaskets 10, 11 are clearly shown in Fig. 1 to be mounted on the sleeve 9 and described as such in the specification. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 37 CFR §1.83(a) objection to the drawings is, therefore, respectfully requested.

As the examiner will note, allowable claim 15 has been incorporated into claim 12, the dependency of claim 17 has been amended and claims 31-35 have been canceled.

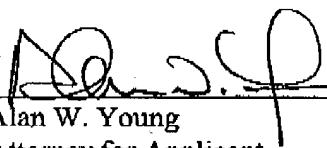
As all pending claims now incorporate subject matter indicated to be allowable, it is not believed necessary to discuss the art rejections at this time.

It is believed, therefore, that the present application is now in condition for allowance and an early passage to issue. In the event that there remain any questions relating to this response or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions and whatever is needed will be done immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Oct 12, 2004

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Atty. Docket No. MUNR5702